## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended)  A method comprising the steps of:

by computer, identifying a trade of a traded instrument or item occurring at an outlier price deviating from a benchmark price, the benchmark price ~~being~~ reflecting at least one of a price ~~or~~ and a  range of prices at which the instrument or item would have traded in absence of market distortion, ~~the identifying being based at least in part on monitoring prices at which trades of the instrument or item occur over a time interval,~~ the trade involving at least one first distributee participant of a plurality of distributee participants in a market for the traded instrument or item; and

distributing at least a portion of profits earned because of the deviation of the price of the outlier-price trade from the benchmark price, to at least one second distributee participant of [[a]] the plurality of distributee participants in [[a]] the market for the traded instrument or item.

3. (cancelled)

4. (currently amended)  The method of claim 2, further comprising distributing the at least the portion of the profits attributable to the deviation to the at least one second distributee participant of the plurality of distributee ~~market~~ participants in proportion to a share of profits attributable to the deviation obtained from the at least one second distributee market participant[[s]].

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended)  The method of claim 2, further ~~the monitoring of prices~~ comprising determining the benchmark price at least in part by monitoring ~~sampling~~ trading prices over a time interval ~~at pre-determined intervals~~.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~wherein the benchmark price is determined based~~ further comprising determining the benchmark price at least in part by determining a running average of the trading price~~s~~.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~wherein the benchmark price is determined based~~ further comprising determining the benchmark price at least in part by determining a median trading price.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~wherein the benchmark price is determined based~~ further comprising determining the benchmark price at least in part by determining a mode trading price.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the benchmark price ~~relative to which deviation of the outlier-priced trade is evaluated~~ includes a range of benchmark trading prices.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the benchmark price ~~relative to which deviation of the outlier-priced trade is evaluated~~ includes a last-in-time trading price.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~, wherein the benchmark price is determined based~~ further comprising determining the benchmark price at least in part by determining a weighted average trading price.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising implementing the method in an electronic trading platform.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the instrument or item includes one or more of electricity, natural gas, energy, and oil.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim [[2]] 6, wherein the monitoring ~~further comprising~~ comprises ~~monitoring a plurality of~~ sampling the trading prices at pre-determined intervals.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim [[2]] 6, wherein the monitoring ~~prices at which trades of the instrument or item occur over a time interval~~ includes monitoring for prices remaining stable within a relatively small percentage range.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim [[2]] 6, wherein the trading prices ~~monitored to determine a benchmark price~~ include prices for trades occurring after the outlier-price trade.

18. (currently amended) A computer program embodied on a tangible medium, when executed by a computer, the program configured to instruct ~~the program instructing~~ a computer to:

identify a trade of a traded instrument or item that occurred at an outlier price deviating from a benchmark price, the benchmark price reflecting at least one of a price ~~or~~ and a range of prices at which the instrument or item would have traded in absence of market distortion, ~~the identifying being based at least in part on monitoring prices at which trades of the instrument or item occur over a time interval,~~ the trade involving at least one first distributee participant of a plurality of distributee participants in a market for the traded instrument or item; and

generate a request that at least a portion of profits earned because of the deviation of the price of the outlier-price trade from the benchmark price, be distributed to at least one second distributee participant of [[a]] the plurality of distributee participants in [[a]] the market for the traded instrument or item.

19. (currently amended)  The program of claim 18, <u>wherein</u> the program <u>is</u> further <u>configured to</u> instruct[[ing]] the computer to:

distribute the <u>at least the portion of the</u> profits attributable to the deviation to <u>the</u> at least one <u>second disributee participant</u> of [[a]] <u>the</u> plurality of distributee ~~market~~ participants ~~harmed by the deviation from the benchmark price~~ in proportion to a share of profits attributable to the deviation obtained from the distributee market participants.

20. (currently amended)  The program of claim 18, wherein the benchmark price ~~relative to which deviation of the outlier-priced trade is evaluated~~ includes a range of benchmark trading prices.

21. (currently amended) The program of claim 18, [[,]]wherein <u>the program is further configured to instruct the computer to determine</u> the benchmark price ~~is determined based~~ at least in part by determining a weighted average trading price.

22. (previously presented)  The program of claim 18, wherein the instrument or item includes one or more of electricity, natural gas, energy, and oil.

23. (currently amended)  The program of claim 18, wherein <u>the program is further configured to instruct the computer to</u> ~~the~~ monitoring prices at which trades of the instrument or item occur over a time interval  ~~includes monitoring for prices remaining stable within a relatively small percentage range~~.

24. (currently amended)  The program of claim [[18]] <u>23</u>, wherein the prices monitored ~~to determine a benchmark price~~ include prices for trades occurring after the outlier-price trade.

25. (currently amended)  A method performed by a trader in a market for an instrument or item, the method comprising the steps of:

entering a[[n]] trade order ~~into an electronic trading market~~ for the instrument or item into an electronic trading market[[,]] ~~and having that order executed~~ for execution by an electronic platform for the market, the trade occurring at an outlier price deviating from a benchmark price, the benchmark price ~~being~~ reflecting at least one of a price ~~or~~ and a range of prices at which the instrument or item would have traded in absence of market distortion; and

receiving notification from the electronic trading platform of a redistribution of at least a portion of profits attributable to the deviation either to the trader from other traders in the market, or from the trader to other traders, the amount of the redistribution being based at least in part on ~~identification of~~ the deviation of the price of the outlier-price trade from the benchmark price.

26. (currently amended)  The method of claim 25, wherein the redistribution of profits is based at least in part on a proportion of market share attributable to ~~market participants~~ the trader or other traders in the market.

27. (currently amended)  The method of claim 25, ~~further comprising distributing the profits attributable to the deviation to at least one of the market participants in proportion to~~ wherein the redistribution of profits is based at least in part on a share of profits attributable to the deviation obtained from the ~~distributee market participants~~ the trader or other traders in the market.

28. (currently amended)  The method of claim 25, wherein the benchmark price is determined based at least in part ~~by determining~~ on a running average trading price ~~over a time interval~~.

29. (currently amended)  The method of claim 28, wherein the benchmark price ~~relative to which deviation of the outlier-priced trade is evaluated~~ includes a range of benchmark trading prices.

30. (currently amended)  The method of claim 25, wherein the benchmark price is determined based at least in part ~~by determining~~ <u>on</u> a weighted average trading price.

31. (currently amended)  The method of claim 25, <u>wherein the benchmark price is determined based at least in part on</u>  ~~the monitoring further comprising~~ monitoring a plurality of trading prices.

32. (currently amended)  The method of claim <u>2,</u> ~~25, wherein the prices monitored to determine a benchmark price include prices for trades occurring after the outlier-price trade~~ <u>further comprising distributing the at least the portion of the profits attributable to the deviation to the at least one second distributee participant of the plurality of distributee participants based at least in part on a proportion of market share attributable to the at least one second distributee market participant.</u>

33. (currently amended)  The method of claim [[2]] <u>6, wherein</u> the monitoring further comprising monitoring a plurality of trading prices, <u>wherein</u> the ~~monitored~~ instrument[[s]] or item[[s]] including at least electricity, <u>wherein</u> the monitoring of prices compris~~ing~~<u>e</u> sampling the <u>plurality of</u> trading price at pre-determined intervals, and <u>wherein the method further comprising</u> maintaining a running period of the sample[[s]]<u>d trading prices</u> falling within a range[[,]] to determine a mode among the samples of a running period<u> the mode corresponding to the benchmark price.</u>